



March 22, 2020

Dear TRA Allied Members, Preferred Partners, and Texas Restaurant Industry Supporters,

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis has brought upon the restaurant industry a challenge of catastrophic magnitude. The Texas Restaurant Association has been fighting daily to support the evolving needs of the more than 50,000 restaurants throughout the State of Texas and the 1.4 million workers they employ.

As we continue to collaborate with local, state, and federal officials to ensure that the essential services provided by restaurants remain available to our communities, we must also look toward relief and the immediate financial need of independently owned restaurants, if they are to survive this truly unique time.

To respond to this immediate financial need we have established the **TX RESTAURANT RELIEF FUND** through the Texas Restaurant Association Education Foundation – our 501(c)3 non-profit focused on the education and development of Texas' restaurant industry workforce. The mission of the TX Restaurant Relief Fund (TRRF) is:

**To provide immediate financial relief to Texas' independent restaurateurs
with funds designed to save employee jobs.**

Funds received will help keep independently owned restaurants open and their workers employed. As restaurants await relief from the government through the stimulus package and navigate the application process for the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Economic Injury disaster loans, they are fighting for their survival. We need to get money into their hands today, and so have set out to raise a minimum of \$10 million to support as many of Texas' independently owned restaurants as possible.

The TX Restaurant Relief Fund will distribute grants of up to \$5,000 per unit to independent restaurants across Texas to immediately support their financial needs. These funds are earmarked specifically for use to keep their doors open and their workers employed.

Working together, we can support the incredible independently owned restaurants in Texas as well as their employees. Please consider contributing to the TX Restaurant Relief Fund through one of three ways:

1. Text **TRRF to 31996** to give immediately to the fund
2. Visit <https://www.txrestaurant.org/TXRestaurantReliefFund> to donate up to \$10,000
3. Email trrfdonations@txrestaurant.org for donations of more than \$10,000

The TX Restaurant Relief Fund will continually issue grants to independent restaurants as money is raised.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Williams Knight".

Emily Williams Knight, Ed.D.
President & CEO
Texas Restaurant Association and Education Foundation

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chef Sharon Van Meter".

Chef Sharon Van Meter
Chairwoman
TRAEF Board of Trustees

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY OF DONATIONS

The Texas Restaurant Association Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. Since the organization does not provide any goods or services in whole or partial consideration for contributions, the full amount of your donation is tax-deductible, subject to applicable laws and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations.

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